

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 IO-10

/062 W

----- 075615

R 161230Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1751

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

SECDEF WASHDC

USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS KUWAIT 5369

E.O. 11652: N/

TAGS: PFOR, MARR

SUBJECT: BAHRAINI REPRESENTATIVE DISCUSSES IN PRESS INTERVIEW
U.S. NAVY PRESENCE IN BAHRAIN

1. FOLLOWING ARTICLE APPEARED IN KUWAIT ARABIC DAILY AL QABAS
DEC 12, 1974. INTERVIEW WAS GRANTED TO AL QABAS BY SEIF JABER
AL MSALLAM, DIRECTOR AND RANKING OFFICIAL IN BAHRAIN'S CULTURAL
OFFICE IN KUWAIT (BAHRAIN'S ONLY DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION IN
KUWAIT) ON OCCASION OF BAHRAIN'S NATIONAL DAY.

2. HEADLINE: AMERICAN FLEET HAS FACILITIES, NOT BASE, IN BAHRAIN.
TEXT: THERE IS NO AMERICAN NAVAL BASE IN BAHRAIN AS REPORTED
BY SOME PRESS. THERE ARE SOME FACILITIES WHICH ARE PROVIDED BY
BAHRAIN TO VISITING U.S. FLEET IN EXCHANGE FOR SUME OF MONEY. THIS
IS ACCORDING TO PRE-ARRANGED MUTUAL AGREEMENT.

3. IN 1973, WHEN OCTOBER WAR BROKE OUT, BAHRAIN REQUESTED AGREE-
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MENT BE CANCELLED. IT IS CUSTOMARY THAT RESPITE PERIOD SHOULD

BE GIVEN IN ORDER TO ENABLE CONCERNED PARTY TO CLOSE DOWN.
BAHRAIN GAVE U.S. NAVY ONE YEAR TO DO SO. HOWEVER,/DIT
HAPPENED THAT FOLLOWING OCTOBER 24 ARAB-AMERICAN RELATIONS BEGAN
TO IMPROVE AND TO BE RESTORED TO NORMAL, A FACT WHICH PROMPTED
BAHRAIN TO RETURN FACILITIES TO NAVY. SUCH FACILITIES ARE ONLY
SUPPORTIVE IN NATURE.

4. AT ANY TIME GOVERNMENT OF BAHRAIN FEELS THAT SUCH FACILITIES
WOULD CAUSE HARM TO ARAB WORLD OR IMPOSE THREAT TO ITS SECURITY,
THE GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE EVERY ACTION TO BENEFIT ARAB NATION.
END OF TEXT.

5. INTERVIEW CONTINUED ON OTHER SUBJECTS.

6. COMMENT: ARTICLE WAS FIRST EXPLANATION BY BAHRAINI OFFICIAL
OF U.S. NAVY PRESENCE IN BAHRAIN TO APPEAR IN KUWAIT PRESS IN
RECENT MONTHS.
STOLTZFUS

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